

Caucus Update

Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus

Fall

'08

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2008 MLWPC Meeting Schedule

As part of the 2008 programming, MLWPC will offer round-table discussions and informal presentations from the following individuals and groups. The new initiative aims to foster greater dialogue and increased contact with those who represent women constituents.

All meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at the Holiday Inn at Second Street and Broadway from 5:30 to 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Meetings are FREE and open to all members, public and guests. Assorted hors d'oeuvres are optional for \$10. Reservations are appreciated and can be made by contacting Angie Wallace at (502) 412-3070 or akwallace0818@yahoo.com. No meetings are held in June, July, August and November.

September 18 Panel Presentation: We Were There!

Following our national organization's endorsement of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton for President, women and friends of the Kentucky Delegation to the National Democratic Convention will share their insights into the historic convention held in Denver, Colorado.

October 16 Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
Eleanor Jordan, Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission on Women

December 4 Installation of Officers and Holiday Reception

Women candidates in November's election

As part of our mission to promote women candidate, the MLWPC is pleased to offer information about two women running for election in November--Kentucky Senate candidate Kathy Groob and State Representative Kathy Stein.

Kathy Groob, Kentucky Senate

Kathy grew up as the oldest of five children in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky. She has devoted her life to her husband and three children. With the support of her own mother, grandmother, aunt and wonderful friends, Kathy continued her career while raising and caring for her children. Heavily involved in the children's schools, Kathy served often as room mother, PTSA treasurer, fundraiser and chairman of special projects, and also served on the school site-based decision making council. Married to Jeff Groob, the couple has started and built a business and are the parents of three grown children.

Kathy is a Vice President of Paul Hemmer Companies, where she is responsible for developing new products and services, business acquisitions, strategic planning, and marketing communications for the company. In addition, Kathy handles market research and customer satisfaction studies, as well as sales support, training, and public relations. She is also responsible for the community and professional involvement activities of Paul Hemmer Companies and its staff. (Continued on page 2.)

Please note new meeting time:

Third Thursday of the month

beginning Sept. 18



Groob



Stein

The Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus works to increase women's participation in the political process and to identify, recruit, train and support feminist women for election and appointment to public office.

MLWPC Principles

- To strive for equality for all women
- To ensure reproductive freedom
- To achieve quality dependent care
- To eradicate sexism, racism, anti-Semitism, ageism, ableism, violence, poverty and discrimination on the basis of religion or sexual orientation

MLWPC Goals

- Encourage women to be active and effective in all aspects of the political process
- Support the efforts of KWPC-endorsed candidates who run for or are appointed to office
- Organize women around the state for political action on women's issues
- Initiate, lobby and monitor legislation which guarantees women equal protection under the law and for programs and measures which benefit women

The Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus uses the Greek symbol for women to form five circles, representing the five races, intertwined to symbolize unity of purpose and that together we can achieve anything.

Get to Know Kentucky Women

In 1978 the Kentucky Commission on Women initiated a campaign to bring attention to the outstanding contributions women make to Kentucky. The scope of this effort included Kentucky women who have significantly aided the development and advancement of life in the Commonwealth, but have generally been omitted from historic accounts. "Kentucky Women Excel" began with a commission-sponsored exhibit at the 1978 Kentucky State Fair, which included watercolor portraits of six women who had different interests and worked in non-traditional ways, particularly in the eras in which they lived. Now, these portraits hang in the Capitol - providing a more appropriate balance to the statues and busts of men who impacted Kentucky's history. MLWPC is pleased to share these stories with our members and newsletter recipients to honor some of Kentucky's most-notable women.

Get to know: Mary Elliott Flanery, Boyd County, 1867-1933

In 1921, Mary Elliott Flanery was the first woman elected to the Kentucky State legislature and was named Kentucky's Most Prominent by the Kentucky Historical Society. She appealed to the things the "good people back home needed: hard roads and plenty of them, good schools and more of them, and a real Eastern Normal School" Additionally, Flanery focused her concerns on Kentucky's marriage and divorce laws, educational reform, and sponsored the Shepard-Towner Maternity Act. She introduced the bill that created Morehead State Teachers College. Mary Elliott Flanery was a University of Kentucky graduate and taught in Elliot and Carter Counties. In addition to being part of the Kentucky Legislature and educator, Flannery was a journalist for the Ashland Daily Independent. In her weekly column, "Impressions of Kentucky's Legislature," Flanery called for social change. An active volunteer in her community, she fought for women's suffrage through the KY Equal Rights Commission, and was active in both the Daughters of the Revolution and General Federation of Women's Clubs of Kentucky. In 1926, Ms. Flanery founded the John Milton Elliott chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. After her death in 1933, a bronze marker was affixed to her seat number 40 in the House of Representatives, as a permanent memorial of her service to the Commonwealth.

Women candidates in November's election, continued

She has previously served as an elected official in the City of Ft. Mitchell, where she worked to ensure the city's fiscal health, public safety, citizen services, and quality of life.

Kathy Stein, State Representative

Attorney Kathy Stein has served the 75th legislative district of Kentucky since 1997. She is chairman of the Judiciary Committee and Vice Chairman of the Health and Welfare Committee. She also serves on the committees of Election, Constitutional Amendments and Intergovernmental Affairs; Appropriations and Revenue, Liason to Human Resources; Rules; and Legislative Research Commission Senior Citizens Advisory Group.

Kathy is a member of the Kentucky Women's Political Caucus, Chairman Emeritus of the Social Action Committee of the Ohavay Zion Synagogue and the Central Council for Peace and Justice. She is a member of the Fayette County Domestic Violence Prevention Board and the Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program Board. She is a member of the ACLU, NOW and Kentucky Fairness Campaign.

Kathy is married to Alan Stein. She has three children.

Your voice...Your membership

by Membership Chair Virginia L. Woodward

High gas prices. They're on everyone's lips. Failed mortgages. What happened? How did we get in this position? More importantly how do we dig ourselves out?

In a democracy if you don't like what is happening you get involved and one of the most important ways is through politics. It is through our political leaders and those who influence them that we will change the direction of this country.

Since 1972, the Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus along with the Kentucky organization has been committed to changing the face of political leadership of this state. Many might say not much has changed in 36 years, but I for one would disagree. The changes although small have come through stubborn leadership chipping away at the system. After all women have only had the right to vote 88 years.

Jefferson County has a reputation across the state for the number of women and progressives we have elected to the Judiciary. A large portion of which have participated in our Political Skills Workshops over the years held in Louisville.

All of the women of the Jefferson County Legislative delegation are MLWPC members and most of the Jefferson County women legislators in the House and Senate participated in our workshops.

You may never choose to run but through your continuing member dues support, the MLWPC can continue to reach out and offer the opportunity to the next generation that will run, manage a campaign or contribute time and money to a candidate.

This has been a tough year for us. The loss of some early and beloved founders--Dr. Allie Hixson, Nelle Horlander and most recently Dr. Lillalyce Askers--only stands to remind us of the ongoing struggle to ensure the equality of all.

Join/rejoin the Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus MLWPC for 2009 so that we might continue to work for the equality of all, particularly women, in the political process.

Happy 90th Birthday, Bee Johnson

Bee Johnston, a MLWPC founding mother, just celebrated her 90th birthday! Drop her card in care of: Golden Living Center -Hill Creek, 3116 Breckinridge Lane, Louisville, KY 40220. Bee is the reason that the discriminatory practice of not allowing mothers sign for their children's drivers licensed ended. Thank Bee!!!



Congratulations

Congratulations to MLWPC member Mike O'Connell on his appointment as the new Jefferson County Attorney.

Community Calendar

September 10, noon

BPW River City

Jefferson Club

Lunch is \$20.

Contact Mary Lewis at 499-4420 or lewism@msdlouky.org for reservations and details. Meetings are held monthly on the second Wednesday.

September 16, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Louisville Metro Women's Network Biannual Membership Reception with U.S. Senate candidate Bruce Lunsford

Jenicca's, E Market Street

RSVP to nicole.candler@insightbb.com

October 7

Long-time Caucus member Lucy Friebert to receive Presentation Academy Tower Award

RSVP to Beth James Lovins at (502) 583-5935 ext. 103

October 21

Project Women Luncheon

MLWPC will sponsor a table. Tickets are \$75. RSVP to virginiawoodward04@yahoo.com.

October 25, 9 a.m.

Kentucky Commission on Women's President's Summit sponsored by KWPC

Capital Plaza Hotel, Frankfort
Event for statewide presidents/designees of women's organizations and organizations headed by women across the state. For details contact Virginia Woodward at virginiawoodward04@yahoo.com or call (502) 361-4866.

February 2009

KWPC Annual Conference and Meeting

Louisville

Details to be announced later.

2008 Membership Renewal

- Benefactor Member, \$125
- Governing Member plus KWPC and NWPC membership, \$80
- Governing Member plus KWPC membership, \$40
- Limited-income or Student Member, \$25

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

E-mail _____

Party Affiliation _____ Occupation _____

Please make checks payable to MLWPC. Send to 1906 Hillcircle Road, Louisville, KY 40214

